

# A Comparison of Indonesian and German Adolescents' Family Models

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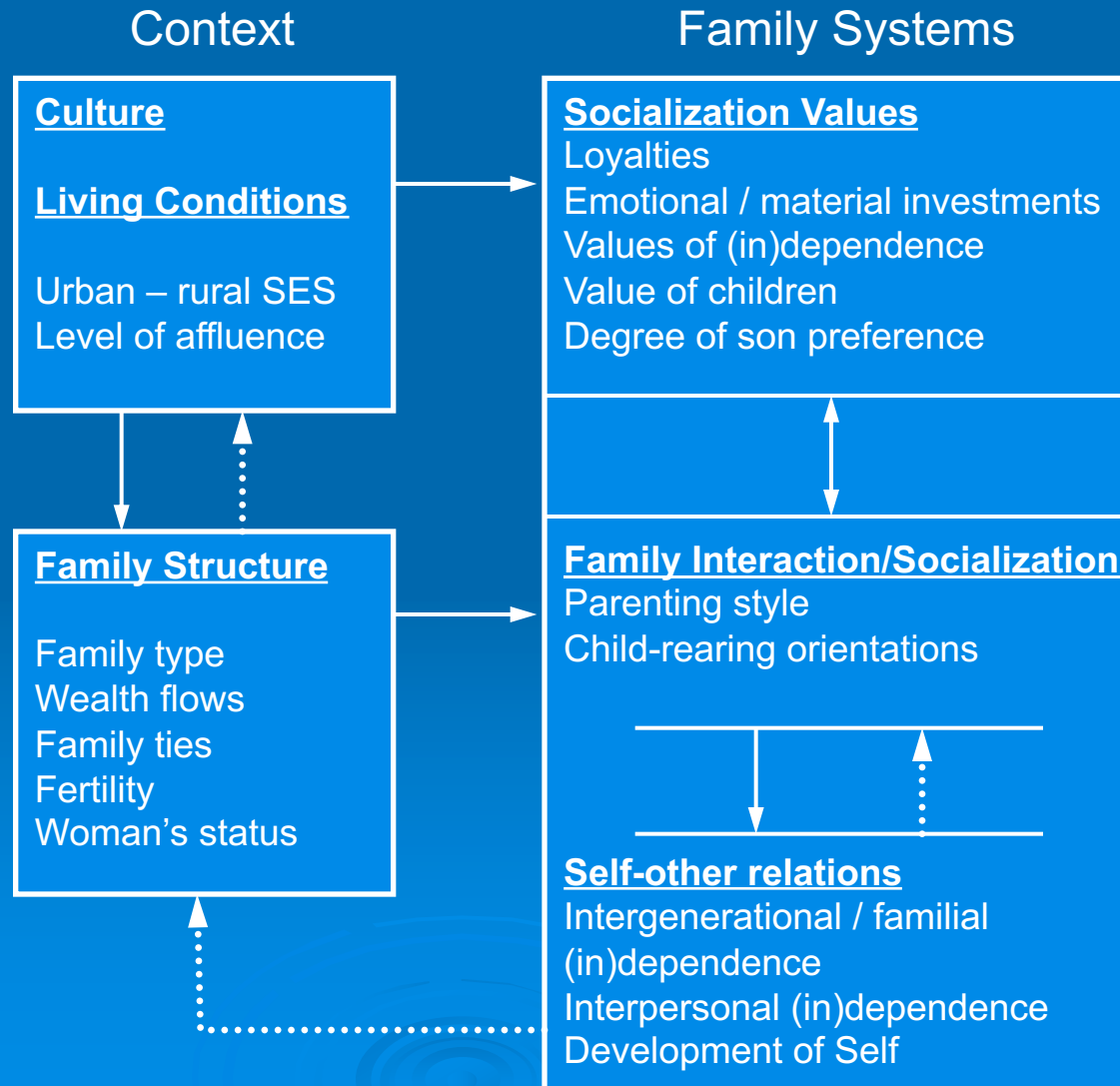
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This study is part of the VOC-Project (Principal Investigators: Prof. Dr. G. Trommsdorff & Prof. Dr. B. Nauck)

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# Family Models (Kagitcibasi, 1996)



# Family Models (cont.)

- Family Model of Independence
  - Low fertility / Low son preference
  - High emotional VOC
  - (Values of) Emotional & material independence
  - **Low family future orientation (FFO)**
- Family Model of Interdependence
  - High fertility / High son preference
  - High economic / normative VOC
  - (Values of) Emotional & material interdependence
  - **High family future orientation (FFO)**

# Family Models (cont.)

- Family Model of Emotional Interdependence
  - Lower fertility / Lower son preference
  - Lower economic / normative & higher emotional VOC
  - (Values of) Emotional interdependence
  - **High family future orientation (FFO), but somewhat lower than in the family model of interdependence**
- **FFO: Concrete future oriented plans concerning marriage, family, and children**

**General Hypothesis:**

**Indonesia: Family model of interdependence**

**Germany: Family model of independence**

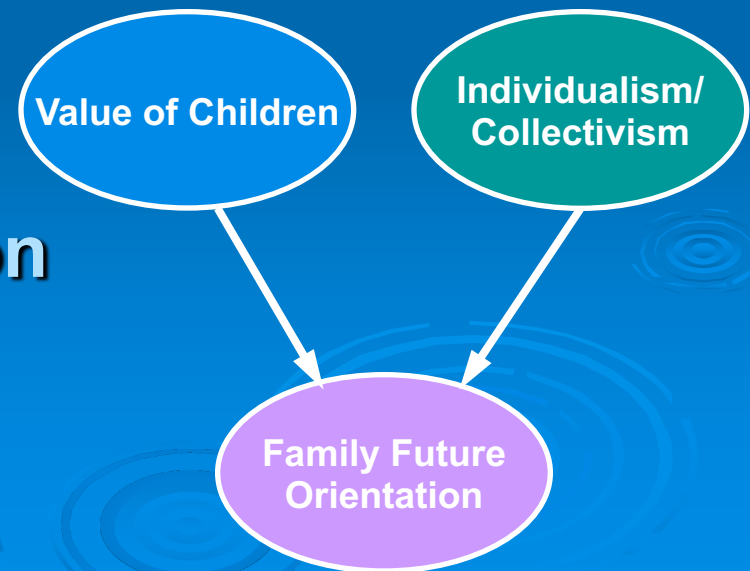


# Cultural Characteristics of Indonesia and Germany

- Population (2003)
  - Indonesia: 218 mill. (42% urban; 87% Muslim)
  - Germany: 82,5 mill. (88% urban; 71% Christian)
- Fertility rate (children per woman)
  - Indonesia: 2.4
  - Germany: 1.4
- Value Orientations (Hofstede, 2001)
  - ▮ Individualism: Germany > Indonesia (67 vs. 14)
  - ▮ Power Distance: Indonesia > Germany (77 vs. 35)

# Two perspectives

- Differences between Indonesian & German adolescents' family models with respect to **Values (I/C, VOC)** and **Family Future Orientation**
- Relationship between **Values** and **Family Future Orientation**



# Hypotheses: Family Models

## 1. Individualism / Collectivism

- Individualism: Germany > Indonesia
- Collectivism: Indonesia > Germany

## 2. Value of Children

- Economic & Normative VOC: Indonesia > Germany
- Emotional VOC: Germany > Indonesia

## 3. Family Future Orientation: Indonesians vs. Germans

- ...are more inclined to marry and to have children
- ...want to have more children
- ...show a higher son preference
- ... in the future family is more important

# Hypotheses: Values and FFO

4. In both countries: Collectivism positively & Individualism negatively related to...
  - Marriage plans
  - Plans regarding having children
  - Number of children wanted
  - Son preference
  - Future importance of family
5. In both countries: Economic & Normative VOC positively, Emotional VOC negatively related to...
  - Marriage plans
  - Plans regarding having children
  - Number of children wanted
  - Son preference
  - Future importance of family

# Sample

## ■ Indonesia

- 300 adolescents (135 boys, 165 girls)
- 86% Sundanese  
50% urban/rural
- 13 – 17 years old  
 $M = 15.3$  ( $SD = 1.0$ )



## ■ Germany

- 311 adolescents (137 boys, 174 girls)
- 13 – 18 years old  
 $M = 15.7$  ( $SD = 1.1$ )



# Sample Background Information


Religion (%)	Indonesia		Germany
Islam	98.3		0.3
Christian	1.4		45.7
Other	0.3		11.2
None	0.0		40.5
Parental Education (%)	Urban	Rural	
No schooling	7.5	9.7	0.0
Primary (6+)	20.7	66.6	5.5
Middle (9+)	57.9	22.4	64.8
Higher (16+)	14.0	1.3	29.7
Perceived SES (1-5)	2.95	2.70	3.23

# Measures: Values

- Individualism/Collectivism (Colindex, Chan, 1994)
  - Individualism: “Exciting life,” “Independence”
  - Collectivism: “Honor of parents,” “Social order”
- Value of Children
  - Emotional: “Because of the pleasure you get from watching your children grow”
  - Normative: “To carry on the family name”
  - Economic: “Children can help you when you’re old”



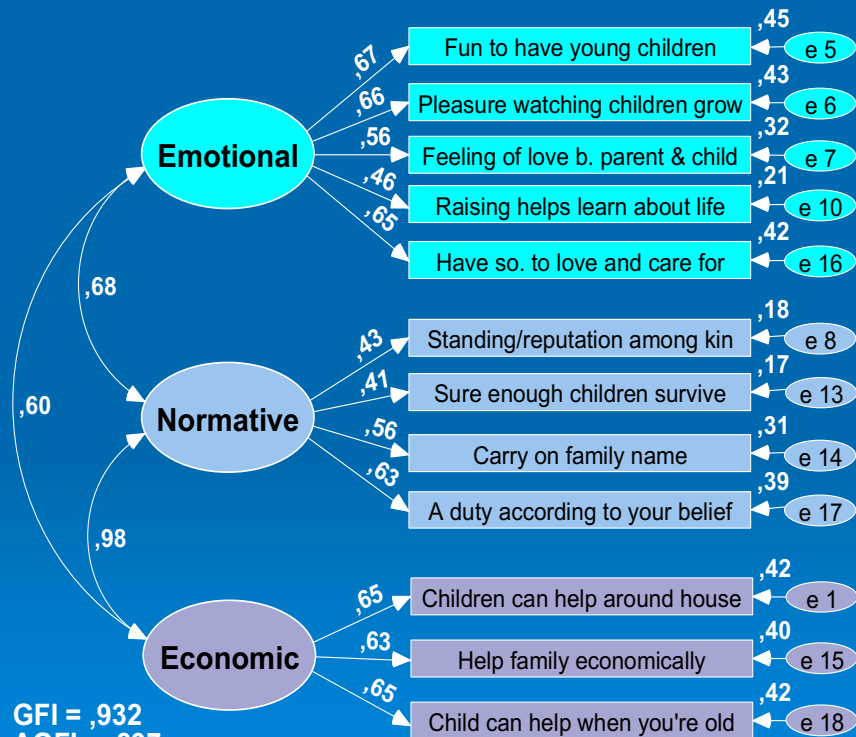
# Measures: Family Future Orientation

- Future relationship / marriage
  - Would you like to have children?
  - How many children would you like to have?
  - Gender preference if only one child
  - Future plans: Family most important
- 



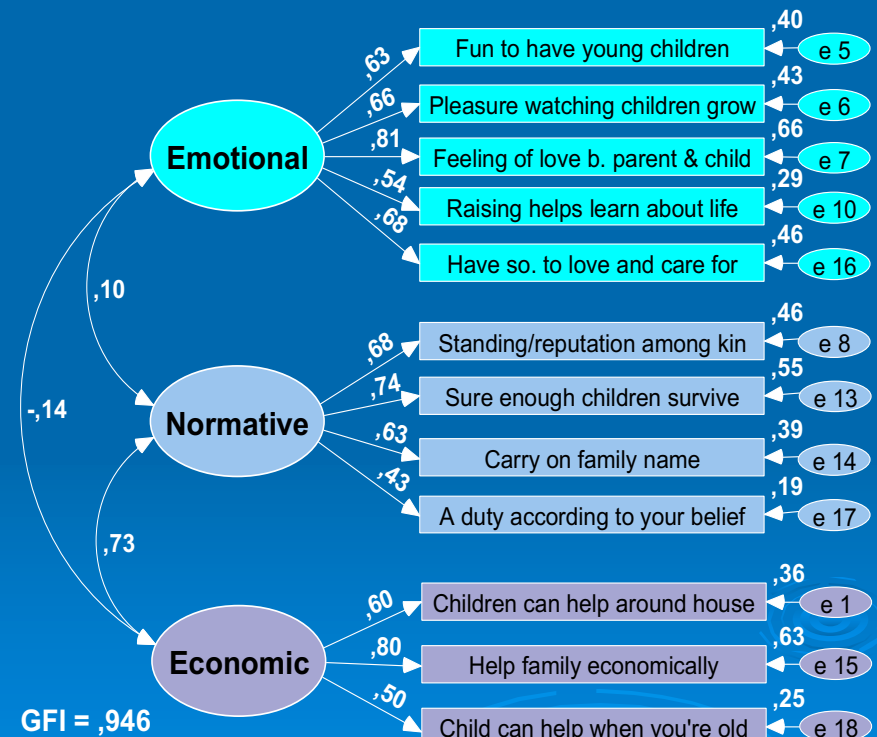
# Value of Children Dimensions (1)

## Indonesia



GFI = ,932  
 AGFI = ,897  
 CFI = ,906  
 RMSEA = ,071  
 Chi-square = 126,795 (df = 51), p = ,000

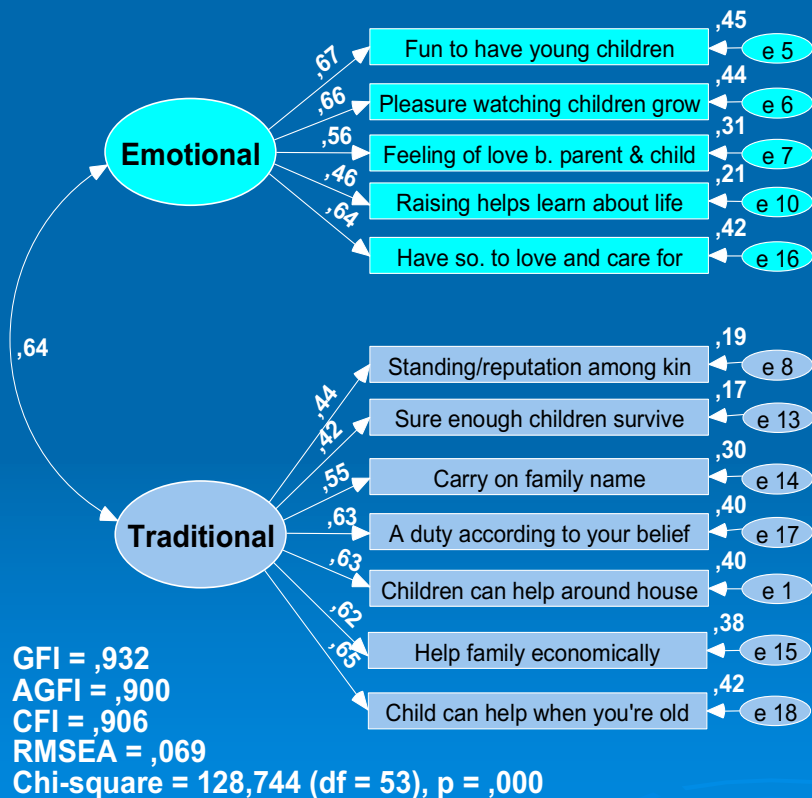
## Germany



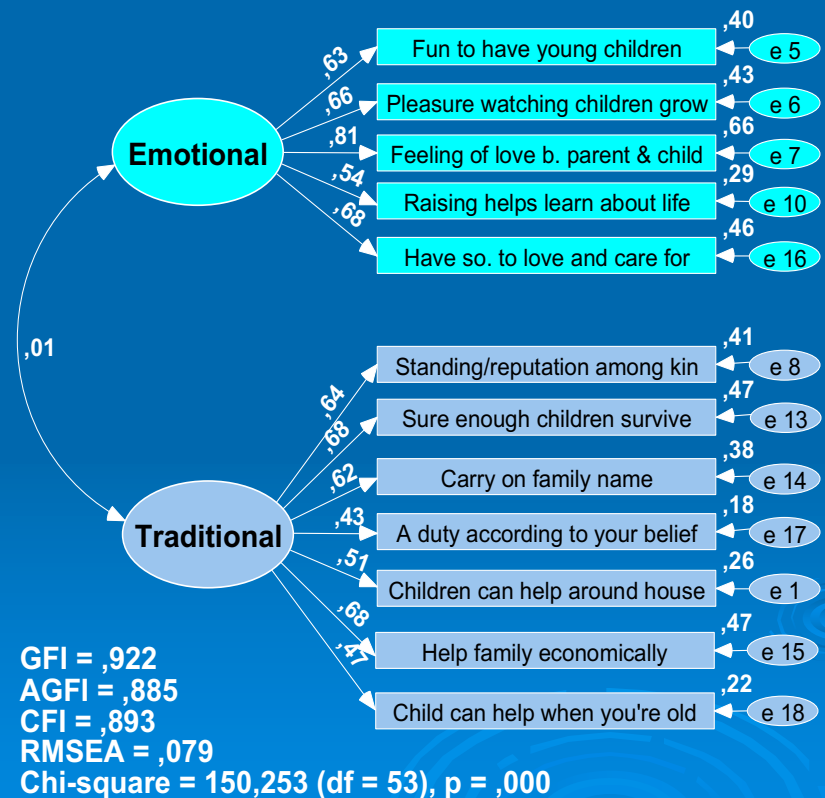
GFI = ,946  
 AGFI = ,917  
 CFI = ,941  
 RMSEA = ,060  
 Chi-square = 104,502 (df = 51), p = ,000

# Value of Children Dimensions (2)

## Indonesia



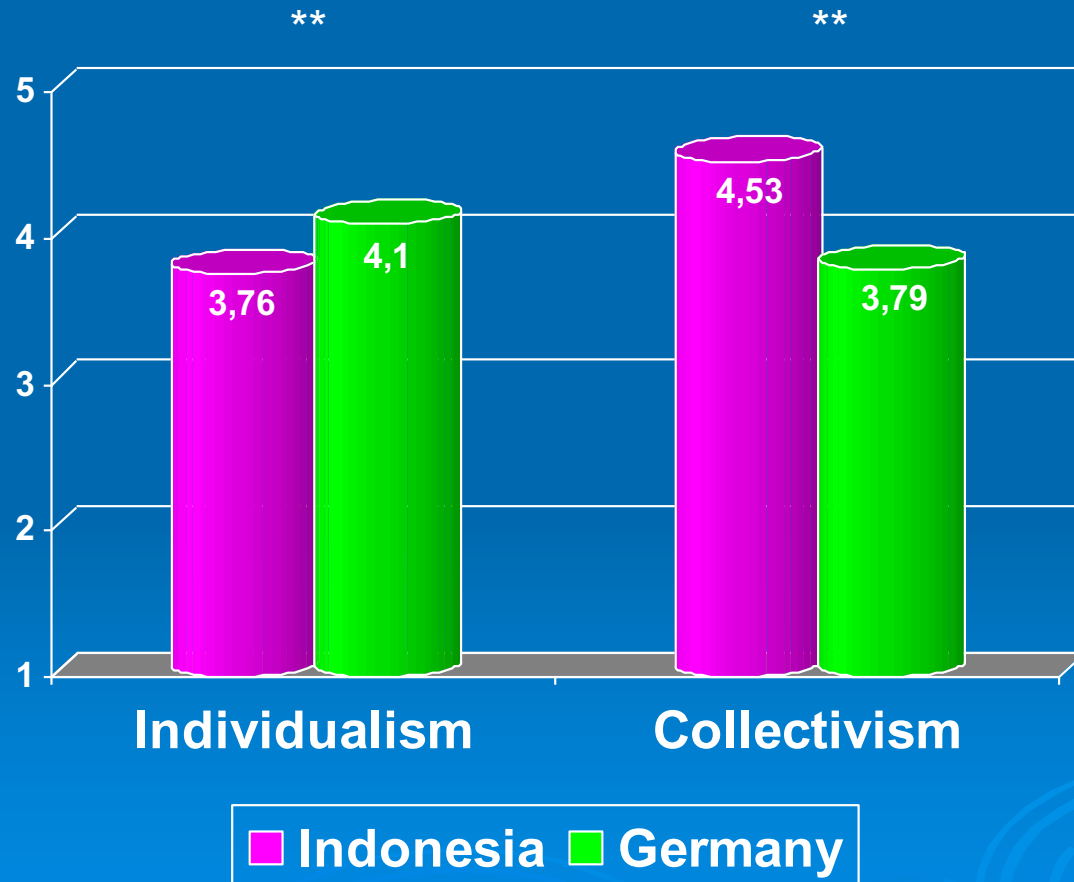
## Germany



# Reliabilities

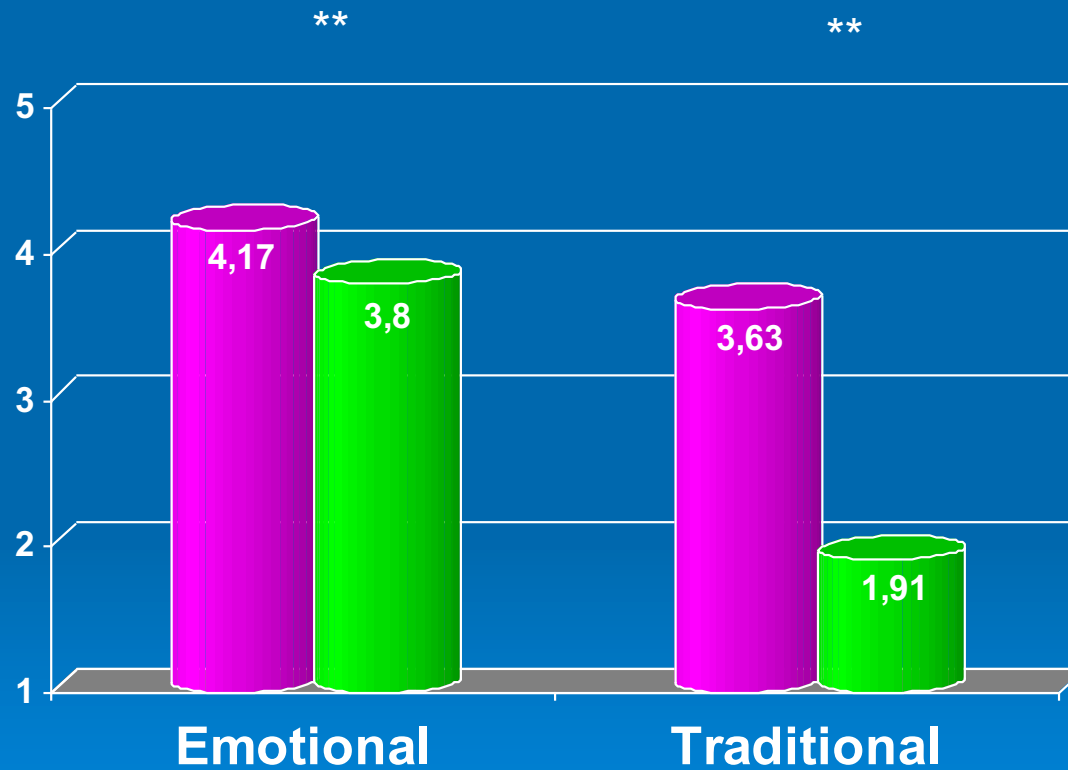
	Items	Indonesia	Germany
Individualism	7	.70	.71
Collectivism	6	.74	.76
Emotional VOC	5	.73	.79
Traditional VOC	7	.76	.77

# Individualism/Collectivism



\*\*p < .01

# Value of Children



\*\*p < .01

Indonesia Germany

# Family Future Orientation (1)

## Future Relationship (%) & Family Importance

	Indonesia	Germany
Get married	93	69
Live together/not marry	0	15
I don't Know	7	16
Family most important (1-5)	3.64	3.18

# Family Future Orientation (2)

Would you like to have children? (%) & How many?

	Indonesia	Germany
Yes/probably	95	72
No/probably not	0	10
I don't Know	4	18
If yes, how many?	2.2	2.0

# Family Future Orientation (3)

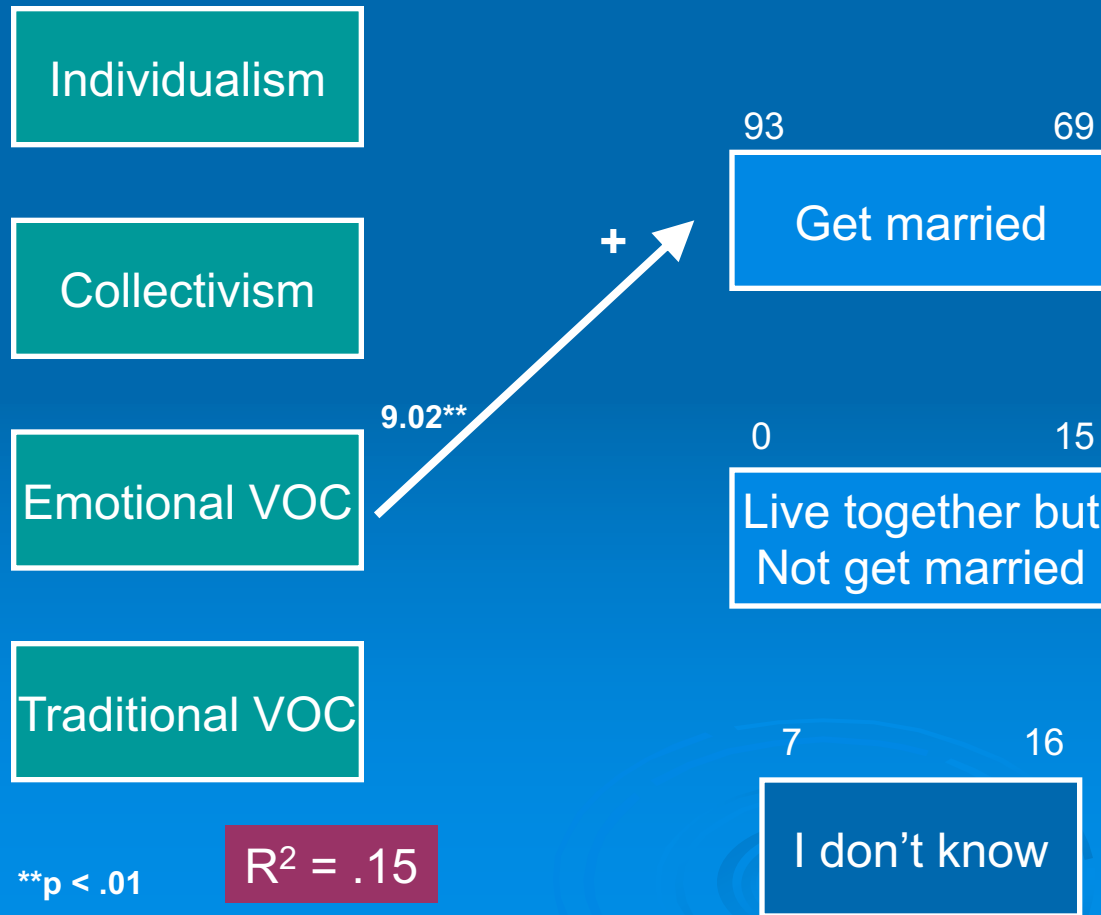
Gender preference if only one child? (%)

	Indonesia		Germany	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Son	19	13	34	12
Daughter	3	12	5	18
Does not matter	78	75	61	70

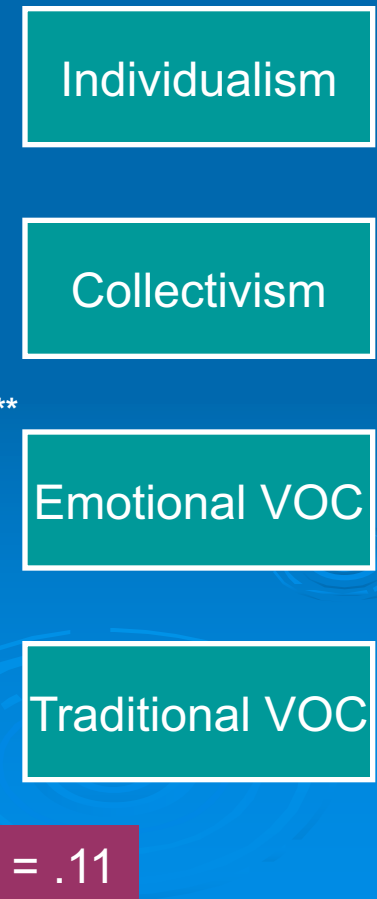


# Marriage Plans

## Indonesia

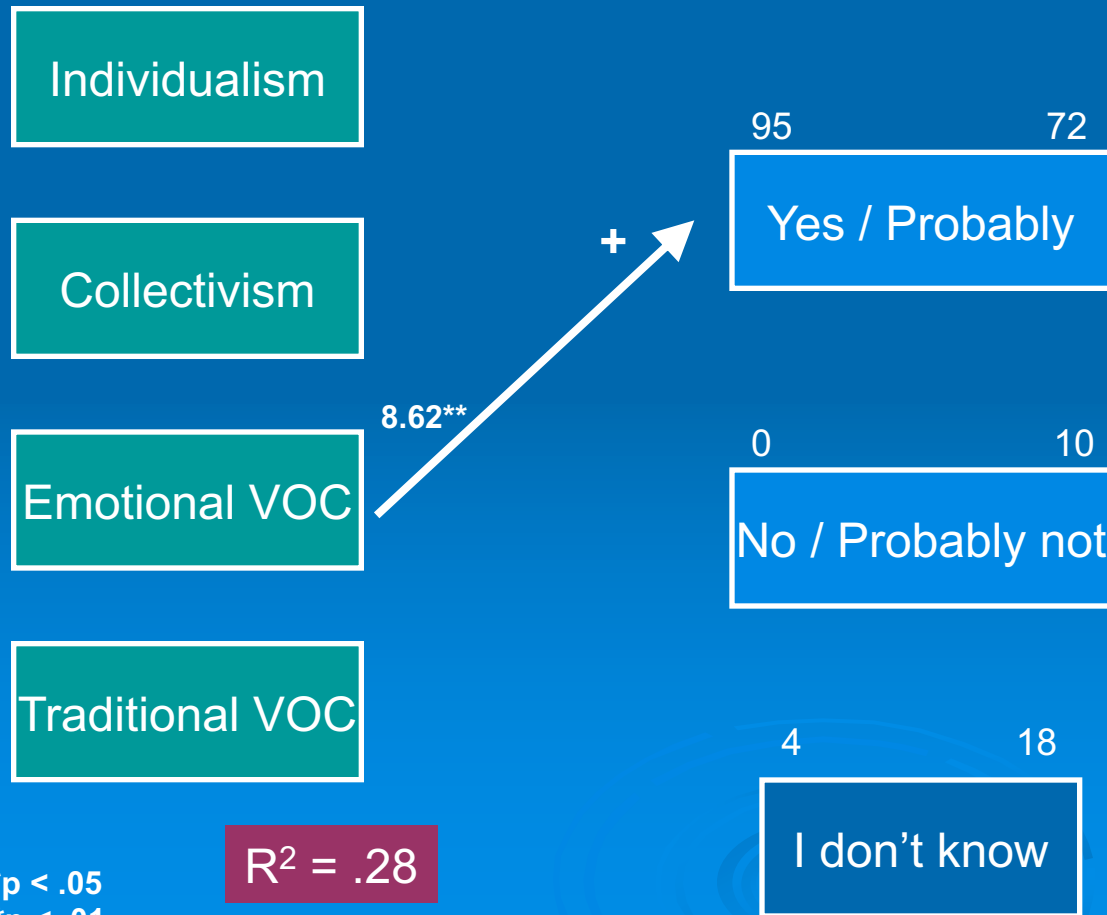


## Germany

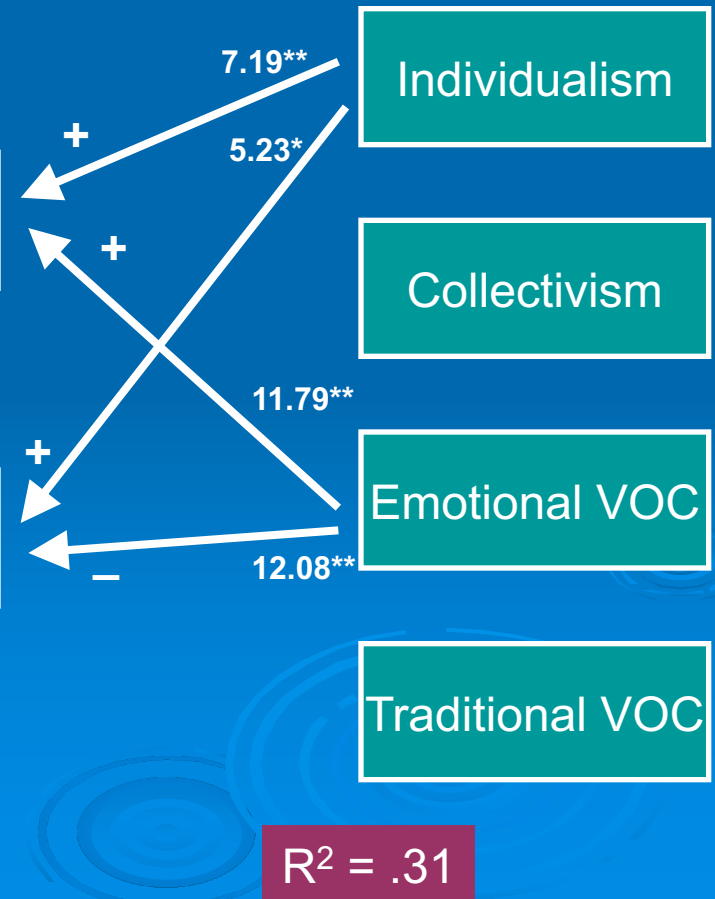


# Would you like to have children?

## Indonesia



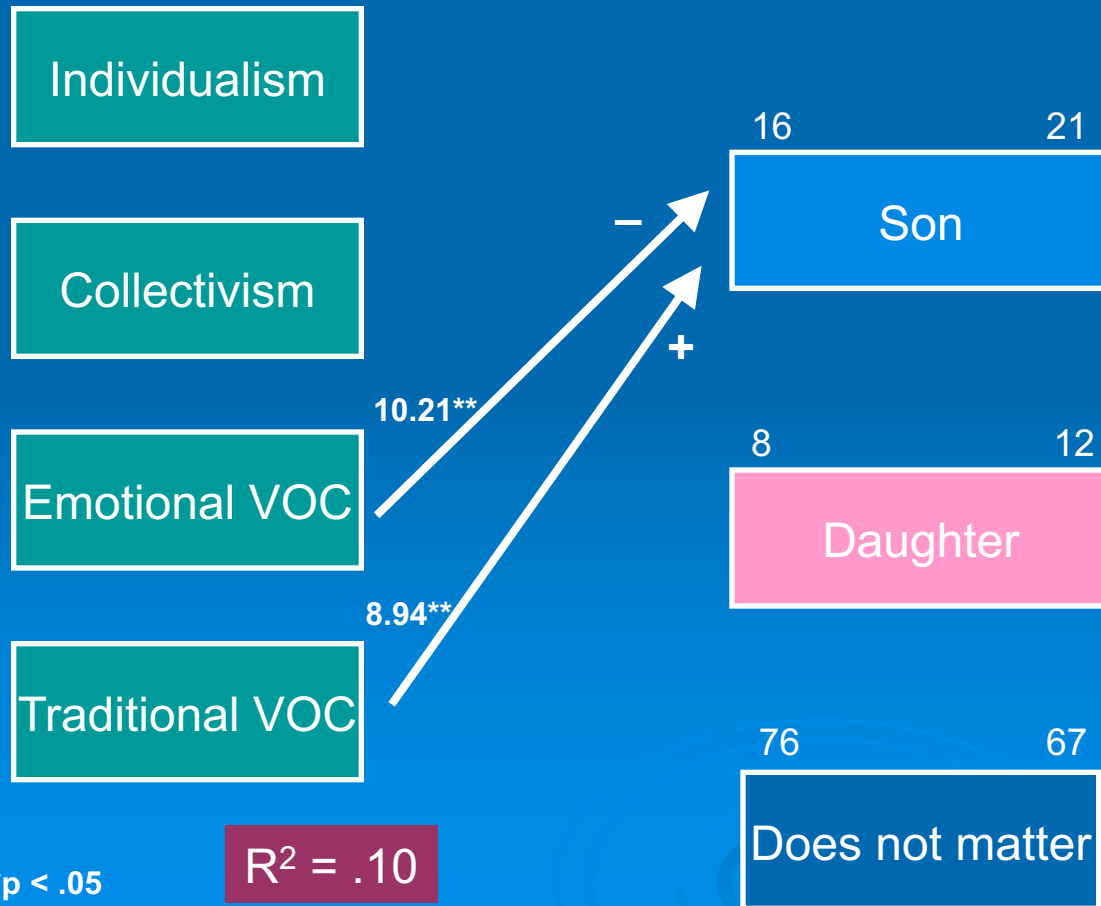
## Germany



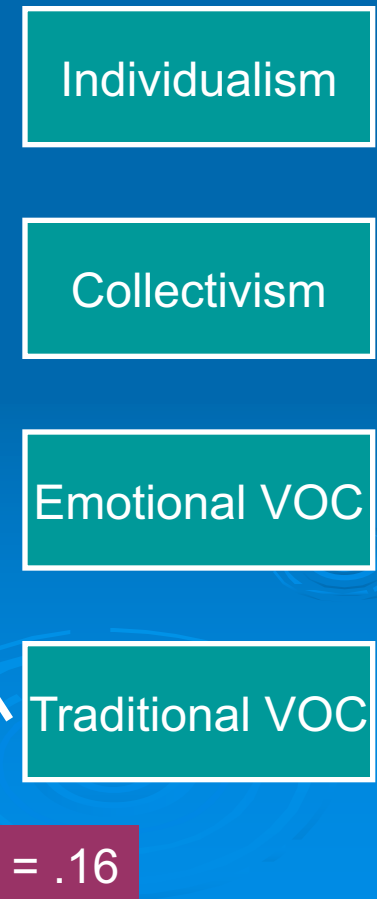
\*p < .05  
\*\*p < .01

# Gender preference if only one child?

## Indonesia



## Germany

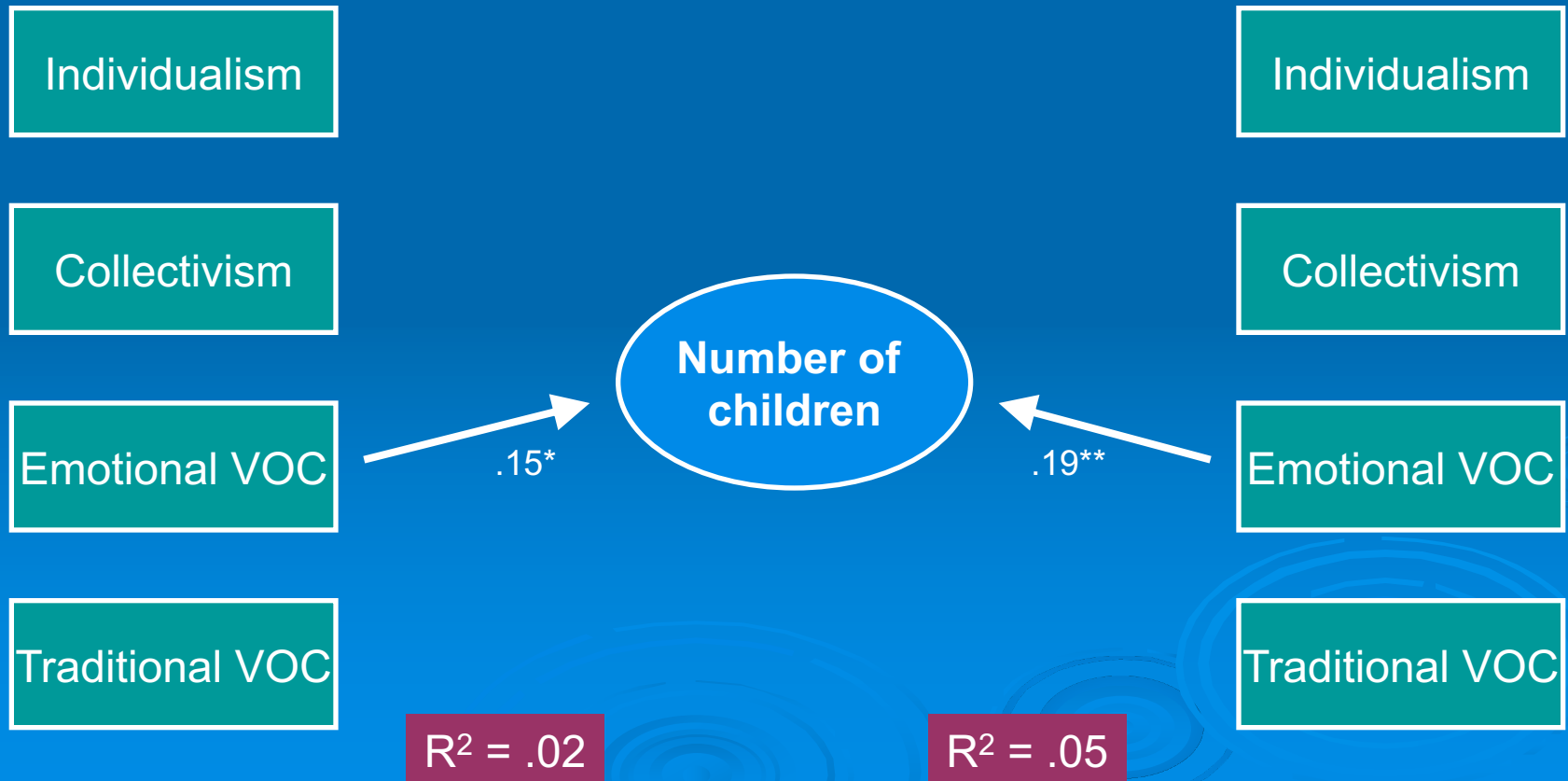


\* $p < .05$   
\*\* $p < .01$

# How many children do you want?

## Indonesia

## Germany



# Future plans: Family most important

## Indonesia

Individualism

Collectivism

Emotional VOC

Traditional VOC

.13\*

$R^2 = .02$

## Germany

Individualism

Collectivism

Emotional VOC

Traditional VOC

.22\*\*

.29\*\*

-.12\*

$R^2 = .15$

Family most important

# Discussion

- Indonesian adolescents' family models can be characterized as emotionally interdependent
  - German adolescents' family models can be characterized as more independent than Indonesian adolescents'
- 
- Emotional VOC rather than Traditional VOC is related to family building variables in both countries
  - Traditional VOC is only related to son preference in both countries

# Conclusions

- Kagitcibasi's theory of family models was validated with respect to values and family future orientation of Indonesian and German adolescents
- Though results on the **cultural** level suggest that Emotional VOC is related to lower fertility, on the **individual** level the relationship may be different: Wanting children for emotional reasons increases the likelihood to want (more) children
- Individualism/Collectivism has rather little relevance for adolescents future orientation regarding the family